



# Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club Inc.

## BULLETIN

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Quarterly Bulletin

No 341

January 2011

The Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club encourages the study of natural history and supports conservation. People of any age and background are welcome as members.

For more information, visit website <http://www.tasfieldnats.org.au/>; email [info@tasfieldnats.org.au](mailto:info@tasfieldnats.org.au); write to GPO Box 68, Hobart, 7001; or phone our secretary on mobile 0418 942 781.

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### Program

**General Meetings** start at **7.15pm** for 7.30pm on the first Thursday of the month, in the Life Science Building at the University of Tasmania.

**Excursions** are usually held the following Saturday or Sunday, meeting at 9.00am outside the Museum in Macquarie St, Hobart. Bring lunch and all-weather outdoor gear.

If you are planning to attend an outing, but have not been to the prior meeting, please confirm the details as late changes are sometimes made.

<b>January 2011</b>	<b>Subs due.</b> Although there is no meeting or excursion in January, membership subscriptions are due. See the website for rates & payment options.
<b>Thurs 3 Feb</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Meeting</b> 7.15pm in Life Sciences building, University of Tasmania. Guest speaker will be <b>Erik Wapstra</b> presenting <i>Tasmanian Lizards</i></li></ul>
<b>Sat 5 or Sun 6 Feb</b>	<b>Excursion</b> looking for lizards on <b>Mt Wellington</b> with Erik Wapstra. The actual day will be decided at Thursday's meeting, based on the weather forecast.
<b>Thurs 3 Mar</b>	<b>AGM</b> at 7.15pm in Life Sciences building, University of Tasmania. This is the annual general meeting with voting for committee positions. Nomination form is attached to this newsletter. Prior to the AGM, current president <b>Michael Driessen</b> will give a talk on <i>Dragonflies</i> .
<b>Sat 5 and Sun 6 Mar</b>	<b>Fieldwork</b> at <b>Peter Murrell Reserve</b> , continuing the wildlife monitoring that we started in March 2010.
<b>Thurs 7 Apr</b>	<b>Meeting</b> 7.15pm in Life Sciences building, University of Tasmania. Dave Sayers of the <b>Fox Eradication Program</b> will give us an update.
<b>Sat 9 or Sun 10 Apr</b>	<b>Excursion</b> on <i>fox techniques</i> with Dave Sayers and Steve Locke who will take us through things like setting out cameras for best chances of capturing a fox, lures,

trapping, and ways of luring a fox closer should you happen to come across one. Day, time and place yet to be decided..
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## Margate-Kaoota Tramway—8th August 2010

Simon Grove

This occasion attracted twenty-three adults and five children—a sizeable gathering of club members. Maybe it was the weather—calm, cool and sunny, or the handy location, or both—whatever the reason, it proved to be a delightful afternoon's walk. The route consisted of 5 ½ kilometres of gentle uphill trackway from the Lawless Road, Margate start to the Kaoota finish, where a minibus awaited drivers to ferry them back to their cars at the starting-point again. Some hardy souls walked both ways.

The walk commenced in damp silver peppermint (*Eucalyptus tenuiramis*) forest growing on nutrient-poor mudstone; yellow dogwood (*Pomaderris lutea*) and cutting-grass (*Gahnia grandis*) were common constituents of the shrub and herb layers respectively (though the term 'herb' somehow doesn't seem right for cutting-grass). The forest here and elsewhere along the trackway showed signs of having been heavily logged in the past, prior to the 1967 bushfire, which re-set the vegetation succession. This meant that there were few large trees, but quite a few 'legacy' logs. Further along the track, the peppermints became intermingled with brown stringybarks (*E. obliqua*), and as the bedrock changed to more fertile dolerite, the stringybarks became dominant, albeit with a scattering of blue gums (*E. globulus*); yellow dogwood was replaced by its close relative, 'native pear' (*Pomaderris apetala*). Climbing a little higher brought us into wetter forest, including some ferny gullies where it was the stringybarks' turn to give way to mountain ash (*E. regmans*), with a shrub-layer including musk (*Olearia argophylla*). The final stretch of the walk was through cleared paddocks as we approached the road at Kaoota.



For many Naturalists, this was a day for walking, chatting and enjoying the fresh air to the constant accompaniment of birdsong, rather than engaging in an exhaustive exploration of the

route's natural history. Few birds were seen, but their calls indicated a typical complement of wet-forest species, including grey fantail, golden whistler and many honeyeaters—the yellowthroats being particularly noticeable by their calls, as is usual at this time of year. Broken shells of the large snail *Caryodes dufresnii* on the trackway hinted at the presence of the shy Bassian thrush (one was subsequently spotted), while scats on the trackway suggested the presence of devils and/or quolls, as well as the usual pademelons and Bennetts wallabies—one wallaby was later seen crossing the track.

A few stalwarts, such as Kevin, Abbey and Lynne, were barely seen by the rest of us as they ventured off-track to rummage for bugs amongst logs, litter and rock. By the end of the walk, Kevin had found seven native species of snails and slugs plus two ferals, while Lynne was happy with her tally of log-dwelling beetles, which will feed into her doctoral research.

Many members spent a pleasurable half hour dissecting a trackside log that proved to be packed with mudguts, a clay-like product of the wood's decomposition. This was inhabited by quite a few weird and wonderful mini-beasts, such as spiky grey uchidarian springtails, darkling beetles and two species

of prostomid beetle. Mike also found us a metallic skink in the log, while Lynne augmented the beetle tally for the log when she arrived on the scene of the investigations once the rest of us had moved on.

Flowers were rather sparse because of the time of year, but silver wattles were flowering profusely in places where the forest had once been heavily disturbed, turning the hillsides yellow. Those of us prepared to get down on our hands and knees amidst the squelchy litter of the wetter forest were rewarded by the sight of flowering stately helmet orchids and of maroonhoods in bud.

Janet kindly sent a copy of her son Tony's fascinating Grade 10 English project (1996) on the Sandfly Colliery and Tramway. From this I learnt that the 12-mile-long, 2-foot gauge tramway from North West Bay was originally built to serve the coalmining ventures around Kaoota, which had started in 1876. Construction of the present tramway route began in 1905, under the auspices of the Sandfly Colliery Company Limited. As a transport route for coal (down-slope) and

other produce (both up- and down-slope), it had a chequered history over the ensuing two decades, because of insufficient investment and changing markets, not helped by bushfires in 1917 and 1920 that took out bridges along the line. A succession of owners, including the State Government (through Kingborough Council), only found use for the line intermittently.

Sometimes its main use was for transporting coal, other times timber. While coal mining continued intermittently at Kaoota up until 1971, the rails and rolling stock were sold off in 1922. Some of this stock found use in the Recherche Bay and Ida Bay coal mining and carbide industries, while the rest remained at Margate, surplus to requirements.

### Orchids

Stately helmet orchid (*Corybas diemenicus*), maroonhood (*Pterostylis pedunculata*), and possibly the strap-like leaves and last year's flower-spike of purple beard orchid (*Calochilus robertsonii*).





### Birds

Forest raven, grey currawong, grey fantail, scarlet robin, pink robin, yellowthroat, superb fairy wren, brown thornbill, yellow-tailed black-cockatoo, strong-billed honeyeater, black-headed honeyeater, yellow wattletail, crescent honeyeater, Tasmanian scrubwren, spotted pardalote, golden whistler, green rosella.

### Snails

Natives: *Caryodes dufresnii*, *Paralaoma* sp. "Knocklofty", *Allocharopa* sp. "Wellington", *Cystopelta bicolor*, *Planilaoma luckmanii*, *Pernagera kingstonensis* and *Prolesophanta nelsonensis*. Ferals: *Deroceras reticulatum* and *Oxychilus draparnaudi*.



### Ants

Inchman - *Myrmecia forficata* (nest)

### Beetles

Darkling beetles: *Adelium abbreviatum* (adults and larva) and *Diemenoma* TFIC sp 03; Prostomid beetles—*Prostomis atkinsoni* (adults and larvae) and *Dryocora cephalotes* (adult); Oedemerid beetle—*Dohrnia* sp. (larva); Stag beetle—*Lissotes*? sp. (larva); Weevil—*Dryophthorus* ECZ sp 02 (adult); Fungus-beetle—*Neopeltops* TFIC sp 01; Eucalypt leaf-beetle—*Paropsisterna bimaculata* (adults); Ground beetles—*Rhabdotes reflexus* and *Acallistus longus*; Click beetle—*Elatichrosis exarata*; Stag beetle—*Syndesus cornutus* (larvae).

**Ed's note:** Apologies to Simon Grove for not including this article in the previous issue!

## Federation of Field Naturalists on King Island—16-17 Oct 2010

### Nell Hilliard

From the moment the rain clouds parted as our plane approached, this magic place had me thoroughly captivated.

A barbeque of luscious local beef at the Boathouse on Friday evening, was followed by Kevin's presentation on island gastropods, with two beautiful shells of the recently rediscovered southern hairy red snail (being circulated).

Saturday was west coast day, beginning with Yellow Rock Beach—a 4 km walk past hooded and red capped plovers, pied and sooty oystercatchers. Beneath Woolly Teatree on the back of the dunes, drifts of pink fairy orchids

flowered, our first of many species for the weekend.



Seal Rocks

On the way to lunch at Cape Wickham, a halt was made to admire the rare but locally numerous leafy greenhoods growing in grass under Coast Teatree. King Island Naturalists have a revegetation project near the lighthouse, a lovely picnic spot.

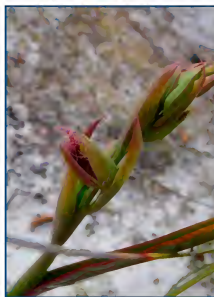
A longish drive to the southern end of the island followed, destination the Calcified Forest. Calcareous pipes have formed around roots, which have then been exposed. By the sandy track, a round morel fungus was found. We enjoyed a blustery but scenic walk to Seal Rocks, *Swainsonia* and tall coast daisy being some of the floral highlights.

Our dinner that night at Grassy again showcased local beef, seafood and dairy products, entertainment being a slide-show of KI Nats.

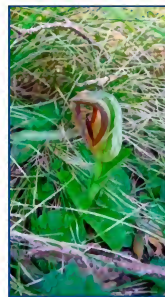
Next morning we met at Naracoopa, in slightly moderated weather. A short drive to an unremarkable fire break trail revealed more pink fairies, then a fire orchid, purple beard orchid and a small group of twisted sun orchids. None was fully open, due to the cool cloudy wet weather.



*Pterostylis meleagramma*



*Beard orchid*



*Pterostylis cucullata*

At Sea Elephant River estuary, PWS Ranger Shelley gave us a talk about the Lavinia Nature Reserve, where orange bellied parrots stop during migration, and southern hairy red snails, green and gold frogs, orchids, mammals and reptiles are found despite the eight fires in 80 years.

Lunch at Pegarah Forest was interrupted by the finding of mayfly orchids. Then we were guided to a stand of graceful, small, understory trees, bootlace bushes, and shown the nest of a sea eagle with the owner watching from a nearby eucalypt. A green bird orchid grew riskily in the middle of the track.

Last but not least, we were shown along an old road where blackstripe and nodding greenhoods, and maroonhoods grew thick and tall, and a vegetable caterpillar fungus was spotted.

Many thanks go to our hosts, who gave us a good glimpse of the unusual ecology, special community and local delicacies, especially Carmen Holloway and James who kept us to schedule and brought along Evan and Gypsy.

This place punches well above its weight!

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## A Trip to Cape Surville—9 October 2010

### Lucy Rutherford

On Sunday the 10th of October a group of both young and old field naturalists journeyed to the Tasman Peninsula, to enjoy what would be a day of walking up hills and cliffs.

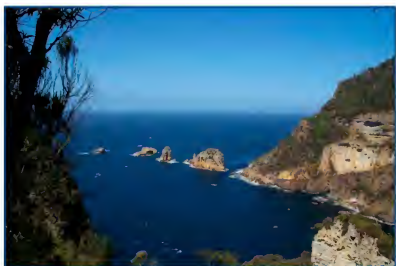
The day started with a small but willing group meeting at the museum at 9 am-ish, where we were rewarded with the first animal sighting of the day, a canary.

We car pooled all the way to the peninsula, where we met up with more happy campers.

We then had the essential photo and headed on up the track. It turned out to be a very long walk to the start of the track but nearly everybody got to the start without a little detour. Once on our way, everyone was content doing what field naturalists do best.

Shortly afterwards, we stopped for a rest and were rewarded with a spectacular view of the peninsula, with the amazing rocks taking the fancy of quite a few budding naturalists.





*Cape Surville*

We ploughed on and ended up having our work cut out for us with recent tree falls blocking the track. Along the way we were fascinated by the variety of plants in the area. These included flowering *boronia*, *dogwood*, *native laurel*, *man ferns* and lots more.

We stumbled on up the hill and eventually made it to the top. There we experienced an amazing view of the peninsula. Though a little blustery we all ate lunch there and once our energy was restored, started the trek back.

Once back on the track, Michael discovered a huge flat worm under a rock. It was the largest one ever seen by anyone in the group.

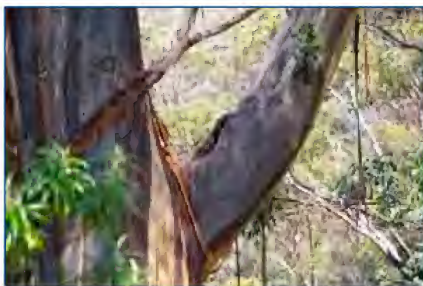
At another point along the track, an echidna was discovered. This sparked great interest among some little people and was a big highlight of the day.

This day was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

Thanks to all who made it possible.



*A keen group of Field Nats*



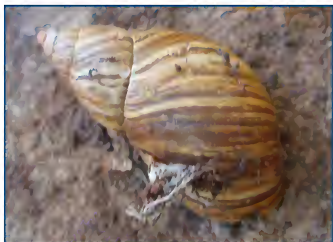
*Spot the pardalote!*

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## **Snails and Orchids at Cape Surville—9 October 2010**

**Kevin Bonham**

I had expected the wet forests on the walk to provide the most snails but actually the species list was dominated by dry forest and coastal species.



*Bothriembryon tasmanicus*

Snails found included:

*Tasmaphena sinclairi*, *T. ruga* (just the second Forestier Peninsula record for this species), *Caryodes dufresnii*, *Bothriembryon tasmanicus*, *Paralaoma hobarti*, *P. discors*, *P. sp.* "Knocklofty", *Laomavix collisi*, *Magilaoma sp.* "tasmanica", *Roblinella curacaoe*, *Thryasona diemenensis*, *Helicarion cuvieri*

A number of orchids were found including: *Pterostylis nutans*, *P. pedunculata*, *P. melagramma*, *Acianthus caudatus*, *Glossodia major*, *Caladenia cracen* and, *Thelymitra* spp in bud.

One butterfly was seen around the carpark at the start of the walk, a Tasmanian Brown (*Argynnis hobartia*).

## Tasmania's Largest Beetles

Simon Fearn

Tasmania has a large and diverse beetle fauna, many of which are rarely seen by casual observers. The three 'giants' fall into this category because, although they are all widespread and locally abundant, some knowledge of their life cycles and habits is required to reliably see them in the wild.

Two of these species are long horn beetles in the sub-family *Prioninae* within the family *Cerambycidae*. Apart from a very few exceptions, Prionid long horn beetles are known for their great size and rather sombre overall colouring of various shades of brown and black. They include the largest of all beetles, the aptly named *Titanus giganteus* of northern Brazil and the Guyana which attains a head/body length of 170 mm. All Prionid larvae are wood borers in both live and dead timber.

Tasmania's two largest beetles are both Prionid long horns. The largest is *Paroplites australis* which infests large adult *Banksia marginata* throughout the warmer coastal regions of

Tasmania as well as large parts of the northern midlands. The most dense populations I have seen are in the banksia-rich north east. Very rarely, large adult she-oaks (*Allocasuarina stricta*) are also utilised as food plants. These beetles are responsible for the destruction (usually through wind damage) or death of all large mature *B. marginata* within their range, and inspection of any dead trees reveals up to hundreds of large oval adult emergence holes in the bark and interiors heavily compromised by the boring activities of the finger sized larvae. This process under natural conditions is mitigated by banksia sapling regrowth. However, in some parts of the midlands, sheep grazing, and thus little or no sapling regrowth, has resulted in local extinctions of large mature trees.

*Paroplites australis* can attain 55 mm in length with males typically being longer and more heavily limbed than females. Adults emerge all at once on hot, humid nights in late January and February.



Top left. A pair of *Paroplites australis*. The male is on the right. Note ovipositor protruding from the tip of the female *P. australis* abdomen.

Top right. A pair of *Toxotes arcuatus*. The female is on the left.

Bottom. Two specimens of *Hydrophilus latipalpus*.

During this time, inspection of infested banksia trees by torch light can reveal dozens of individuals clambering about. Males will savagely fight each other for access to females and it is not unusual to find males with antennae and legs snapped clean off by the razor sharp and powerful mandibles. During the day, these big beetles re enter emergence holes in the banksia trunks and wait for night fall.

Females have a long ovipositor to probe cracks in the bark of host trees where they lay their hard, oval brownish coloured eggs. The larvae take a number of years to attain full size of 60-80 mm long. Before pupation, they chew out a large pupal chamber in the heart of the tree and line it with strips of wood. A tunnel wide enough to accommodate the future adult beetle terminates just in front of the bark. The emerging beetle has to chew through this to escape to the outside world, leaving the distinctive oval holes in the trunks of host trees.

The second largest Tasmanian beetle is the Prionid *Toxotes arcuatus*. This species is better known and perhaps more familiar to people as its large 50-70 mm, white larvae are often found while splitting decaying eucalypt fire wood. In general habits, this species is similar to *P. australis* however, it never infests living timber and its large oval emergence holes are commonly seen on large eucalypt logs and stumps, particularly in

wet sclerophyll forests. This species will attack a wide range of timbers including large dead radiata pines. These beetles can attain 50 mm in length and all the largest specimens I have seen have been females. They also emerge in enormous numbers on hot nights in late summer.

Some large eucalypt logs can give rise to hundreds of beetles. This species can be easily found at the right time of year simply by lifting sheets of loose bark on living eucalypts where they shelter during the day. They are also strongly attracted to electric lights.

The best way to differentiate between the two big Prionids is to examine the edges of the thorax. In *P. Australis*, the thorax is fringed with lots of small, tooth-like spikes. In *T. arcuatus*, the thorax has four large, curved, very sharp projections, two at the top and bottom of each side of the thorax. *T. arcuatus* is also more dorso-laterally flattened (for getting under bark) and has a gloss finish rather than the matt finish on *P. australis*.

The third largest beetle in Tasmania is entirely different. The 40-45 mm *Hydrophilus latipalpus* is our largest water beetle. This species is a vegetarian and lives in lagoons, marshes and dams. Although common and widespread, it is rarely seen by the casual observer due to its



*A large mature Banksia marginata stump riddled with P. australis emergence holes.*



*Larval bores and pupation chambers of P. australis in a large Banksia marginata*



aquatic habits. During the day it can sometimes be momentarily glimpsed as it comes to the surface to capture a fresh bubble of air. However, at night, it can often be observed moving around in shallow water on the edge of dams and is easily caught in a net. During summer, usually on hot humid nights, large dispersal flights can occur between water bodies and large numbers can be attracted to ultra-violet light.

It should be perhaps pointed out in closing that both Prionids have very powerful and razor sharp jaws. Careless handling can result in a painful nip

that can draw blood. *P. australis* in particular is extremely pugnacious, and when really warm, will spin around like a wind-up toy, antennae waving around, looking for something to lustily attach itself to. These big beetles are best held between thumb and fore finger at the 'shoulders' where the wing covers meet. The 170 mm *T. giganteus* of Brazil is reportedly capable of severing a human finger with one snap and after being mauled by *P. australis* a few times I don't doubt it!

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## Eaglehawk Neck Pelagic Trip—27 November 2010

### Bill Wakefield

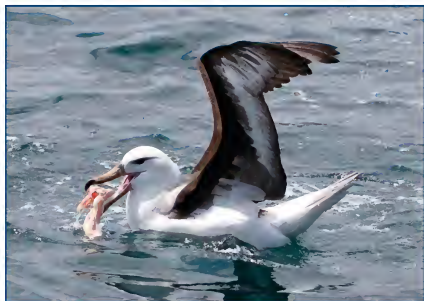
**T**hirteen people on board the *Pauletta* left Pirates Bay Jetty at 7:00 am and headed down the coast towards the Thumbs then out via the Hippolyte to the continental shelf drop-off followed by a further couple of nautical miles further out to sea. The weather could not have been kinder to us as there was only a gentle breeze and a one to two metre gentle swell with barely a white cap to be seen.

Not until we reached the Little Hippolyte were there many birds about, although we had passed small numbers of kelp and silver gulls plus a sooty oystercatcher sitting on their nests as we moved down the coast to the Thumbs. The pairs of Pacific gulls seen did not appear to be involved in breeding activities.

Gannets, black-faced cormorants, gulls and crested terns were feeding around the Little Hippolyte with a good number resting on the rock. Interestingly, at least two of the gannets had what appeared to be full complements of tail feathers that were all black, perhaps indicating

that they could possibly have been Cape gannets. On closer checking of their plumage from our photographs, it was possible to see that the black stripe leading down from below their bills was not long enough to identify them as South African birds. Their under-wings had a few dark coverts present showing that they were young birds.

The usual complement of fur seals was present on the Hippolyte along with black-faced cormorants and our three species of gulls. On rounding the eastern side of the island, short-tailed shearwaters began to increase in numbers, and along with them a Buller's shearwater, passed close enough to permit us all reasonable views. Over the day we had ten sightings of this species, which exceeded the highest number seen on any single day's pelagic trip. Previously, the highest number seen in a single day was six. This together with the increasing frequency of dates on which we are seeing this species seems to indicate that there is a change in their distribution.



*Black-browed albatross*



*Buller's shearwater*



*Hump backed whale*

The wonders of modern digital cameras are certainly improving our ability to identify more distant birds as proved by Ian May when he managed a shot of a distant low flying bird. On blowing up the image, it could clearly be seen to be a Gould's petrel, later followed by another bird of the same species.

As there was not a lot of activity inside the continental shelf drop off zone or the area of the sea just beyond, we moved a couple of nautical miles further out. At this point, four wandering albatross appeared along with a couple of black-browed albatross, Wilson's storm-petrels, a grey-backed storm-petrel, and more sightings of Buller's shearwaters along with white chinned petrels that don't show white chins.

On our return to shore, one or more whales breached way to our north towards Maria Island as we passed a vast number of short-tailed



*Wandering albatross*

shearwaters sitting in a long line on the sea. The climax of the day then appeared, heralded by a pod of common dolphins. Nine hump-backed whales were feeding and came almost up to the boat. When one of the animals blew from up wind we all looked at one another wondering which of us had blown the most awful fuse imaginable! But no, it was the whale's breath which is not the kind you would wish to come up against when in close and intimate conversation with another person, a real conversation stopper!

The birds did all the right things over the day, apart from the raptor hunting over the Hippolyte, the two jaegers and a single storm-petrel that provided only the briefest of glimpses to a couple of the folks on board. I believe that I can truly say that it was the most enjoyable day's birding and company that we have had—one out of the bag!

## Sentinel Range—6 November 2011

Janet Fenton

**T**welve Field Nats gathered for the fray at 'the elephant stalls', as the shelters at the Wedge River picnic ground are affectionately called. The weather could not have been more perfect as we left the rainforest around the car-park, crossed the Wedge River and headed a short distance across the buttongrass to the foot of the range. The quartzite crags towered above us. The summit of the range is 974 m, and we had a 600 m climb ahead of us over a short distance of 1.5 km.

It was pleasing to notice healthy pink *Sprengelia incarnata*, and white *S. propinqua* in blossom, and healthy *Agastachys odorata* near the track (these plants are susceptible to Phytophthora root rot).



*Twelve Field Nats gathered for the fray*

Spring flowers were delightful: clouds of *Bauera rubiodes*, *Leucopogon oreophilus* and yellow *Acacia mucronata* and white and purple *Euphrasia collina*, while purple *Melaleuca squamea* was only just beginning to blossom.



*A long way to the top....*

We climbed up, the track hugging a spectacular cliff with overhangs that afforded shelter for damp and shade loving plants such as ferns and small clumps of *Prionotes cerinthoides*. Mosses and *Milligania* clung to the cliff face.

More alpine species occurred as we gained height, including *Tetracarpaea tasmanica*, *Gaultheria hispida*, *Dracophyllum milligainii*, *Eucalyptus vernicosa*. It was a bit early for *Isophysis tasmanica*, but one flower was noticed just emerging, the petals almost black.

A certain amount of bribery was used to induce the youngest members to the saddle at 920 m where we lunched, reclining on comfy buttongrass tussocks. A passing brown goshawk checked out the prone figures as it circled overhead.

From a rocky ridge we had a view southward over Lake Pedder. The south facing slope immediately below the ridge line harboured myrtles with

lichen clad trunks, and celery-top pine. Also near the ridge-top were *Richea scoparia*, *R. milligainii*, *Gaultheria hispida* and *Persoonia*.

Animal life was not so obvious on this trip, apart from the group being obliged to dodge large jack-jumper nests and the odd bull-ant. During the drive we spotted an echidna, a Bennetts wallaby and yellow-tailed black cockatoos. Welcome swallows flew around the car park and crescent honeyeaters could be heard all day. During the climb, a couple of dragonflies near a runnel of water evaded close scrutiny, but a plump football spider (*Neosparassus*) perched photogenically on a clump of *Bauera*. A black cockroach, mating crane flies, a few geometrid (loopers) caterpillars, hover flies, a tiger(?) snake, skinks (*Niveoscincus ocellatus* and *N. metallicus*) and a flower spider were also noted, while butterflies were too quick for an ID. Plenty of grasshoppers had come out in the warm sunshine.

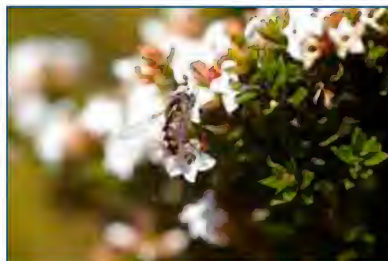
Michael identified some pale yellowish droppings as belonging to the broad-toothed mouse. He explained that the droppings are generally greenish when fresh, fading to a sandstone colour and almost whitish when older. This species is herbivorous, in contrast to the omnivorous swamp rat which produces dark brown droppings which decompose much more quickly.

Not a single snail appeared for Kevin on the trip, but Abbey found that a tick had become rather attached to her by the time we arrived back at the cars

James Wood compiled a flora list, and noted an interesting find: "I spotted *Asplenium obtusatum* in the rock face along the track. The plant is usually coastal but does occasionally crop up in



*Football spider*



*Syrphidae*

the mountains. Looking at the NVA and Mike Garrett's fern book, this hasn't been recorded for the Sentinels."

For a comprehensive list of flora species found on the day, see the TFNC website.

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## Subscriptions Reminder

**Anna McEldowney** (Treasurer)

**H**ave you paid your 2011 subs yet? A reminder that membership subs are due on 1 Jan each year. Please send a cheque payable to Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club Inc, addressed to the Treasurer TFNC, GPO Box 68, Hobart, 7001; **or** pay by EFT to BSB 067102 Account number 28000476 in the name of Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club Inc. PLEASE put your surname AND initials in the transfer so I can identify the payments.

If you have joined since October last year your subs will carry over to 2011.

Membership rates are: Adult—\$30, Family—\$35, Concession—\$25.

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## Photo credits

Margate Kaoota Tramway

*Field Nats investigating a decaying tree*—Simon Grove  
*Prostomid beetle*—*Prostomis atkinsoni*—Simon Grove  
*Prostomid beetle*—*Dryocora cephalotes*—Simon Grove  
*Weevil*—*Dryophthorus ECZ sp 02 (adult)*—Simon Grove  
*Fungus-beetle*—*Neopeltops TFIC sp 01*—Simon Grove

Federation of Field Naturalists King Island

*Seal Rocks*—Nell Hilliard  
*Pterostylis melegramm*—Nell Hilliard  
*Beard orchid*—Nell Hilliard  
*Pterostylis cucullata*—Nell Hilliard

A Trip to Cape Surville

*Cape Surville*—Michael Driessen  
*A keen group of Field Nats*—Michael Driessen  
*Spot the pardalote*—Michael Driessen  
*Snail*—*Bothriembryon tasmanicus*—Kevin Bonham

Tasmania's Largest Beetles

*Beetles*—Simon Fearn  
*Banksia marginata riddled with P. australis emergence holes*—Simon Fearn  
*Larval bores and pupation chambers of P. australis in a large Banksia marginata*—Simon Fearn

Eaglehawk Neck Pelagic Trip

*Black-browed albatross*—B. Wakefield & E. Haywood  
*Buller's petrel*—B. Wakefield & E. Haywood  
*Hump-backed whale*—B. Wakefield & E. Haywood  
*Wandering albatross*—B. Wakefield & E. Haywood

Sentinel Range

*Twelve Field Nats gathered for the fray*—Michael Driessen  
*A long way to the top*—Michael Driessen  
*Football spider*—Michael Driessen  
*Syrphida*—Michael Driessen





## Annual General Meeting and Election of Office Bearers

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The 2011 AGM will be on Thursday 3rd March in the Life Sciences Lecture Theatre at the University of Tasmania. The President's talk will be at 7:15, followed by the AGM, then a General Meeting.

Nominations are called for the following office bearers:-

President	Bulletin Editor
Vice President	Walks and Talks Coordinator
Secretary	Librarian
Treasurer	Naturalist Editor
	Three (3) Committee Members

Nominations should reach the Secretary at the above address by Monday 21 February. A nomination form is attached below, but any written nomination will be accepted provided it contains the same information as the official nomination form.

If insufficient nominations are received to fill all vacancies on the committee, the candidates nominated shall be deemed to be elected and further nominations shall be received at the AGM.

Nominations can also be emailed to [secretary@tasfieldnats.org.au](mailto:secretary@tasfieldnats.org.au) and the agreement of the nominee will be confirmed prior to the AGM.

Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club, 2011

Nomination for _____ (position)	Nominated by: _____
Name: _____	Seconded by <sup>1</sup> : _____
	Accepted <sup>2</sup> : _____

1. If this is left blank the Secretary will seek a seconder from the club membership.
2. Signature of the person being nominated. If this is left blank, the person will be asked at the AGM if they accept nomination.